



State of Louisiana

ANCIENT MOUNDS HERITAGE AREA & TRAILS ADVISORY COMMISSION

29 September 2015

10am to 12pm

Poverty Point World Heritage Site

Welcome – Cathy Berry

Tana Trichel appointed as Commission Chair

Old Business – Tana Trichel

Introductions of PPWHS People – *Phil Boggan*

Station Archaeology Staff – *Diana Greenlee*

OSP PPWHS Staff – *Stephanie Perrault*

OSP PPWHS Update – *Dwight Landreneau/Dianne Mouton- Allen*

Resolution to reduce speed limit on Hwy 577 through PPWHS – *Phil Boggan*

Report to the World Heritage Committee – *Diana Greenlee*

Louisiana Office of Travel – *Julie Doucet for Kyle Edmiston*

Advocates of Poverty Point – *Gary Stringer*

Task Forces – *Tana Trichel*

Appointment of anchor staff, non-staff co-lead, additional task force members

Establish task force goals

Discussion Topics (from organizational meeting)

Other Old Business

May 2015 Meeting Minutes – *Tana Trichel*

New Business –Tana Trichel

Ethics Memo – *Julie Vezinot*

Dr. Russ Greer – *Tana Trichel*

Watson Brake – *Dwight Landreneau/Dianne Mouton- Allen and Phil Boggan*

Frequency and location of Commission Meetings – *Tana Trichel*

Role of CRT Poverty Point World Heritage workgroup compared with Ancient Mounds Commission – *Phil Boggan*

Poverty Point World Heritage Workgroup

The Poverty Point World Heritage Workgroup will focus on activities that are the responsibility of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. The special focus will be the management, interpretation, and protection of Poverty Point World Heritage Site.

Ancient Mounds Heritage Area and Trails Advisory Commission

The Ancient Mounds Commission will augment the work of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism by maximizing the public benefit of World Heritage status, by working to protect the setting of Poverty Point, to continue archaeological studies in the surrounding area, and to help address issues that directly affect the site, but that are not within the scope of CRT's responsibilities.

Other New Business: *Tana Trichel*

Additional Commission member: Native American Representative

Appointment of Commission Officers, Executive Committee (Bylaws)

CRT webpage for Commission announcements (agenda and meeting minutes)

<http://www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/boards-and-commissions/index>

Task Forces

1) Protection of the Site and Setting – Protect and maintain PPWHS in accordance with the highest standards of management, including protection of the setting and possible land acquisitions

Anchor staff: Stephanie Perrault, PPWHS Manager

Recommendations for additional task force members:

Allen Frey, PPWHS Maintenance Foremen

Diana Greenlee, Poverty Point Station Archaeologist

Ray Berthelot, Director, Interpretative Services, Office of State Parks

Kash Schriefer, US Fish and Wildlife (retired)

Nancy Hawkins, Division of Archaeology

George Riser, Advocates for Poverty Point

Possible Goals:

- 1) Establish diverse strategies for maintaining protection of the agricultural setting surrounding PPWHS
- 2) Identify activities outside the state property boundaries that could threaten the visitor experience at Poverty Point, such as through visual, auditory, or olfactory interference because of activities such as development, agriculture, or tourist services.
- 3) Consider strategies such as planning, ordinances, easement, and zoning that could reduce the threat of disturbance by protecting the setting.
- 4) Consider ways to protect archaeological sites related to Poverty Point that are outside the site boundaries.
- 5) Plan and coordinate regional approach to protection of PPWHS.
- 6) Characterize activities outside the state property boundaries that could threaten the archaeological remains at Poverty Point, such as through development, agriculture, or tourist services.
- 7) Consider strategies such as planning, ordinances, and zoning that could reduce the threat of outside activities damaging the site.
- 8) Consider ways to reduce erosion to the site caused by activities or conditions outside the state property.

9) Advise Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism about preservation and safety measures regarding PPWHS and its setting.

10) Look for grants to help expand interpretation, tourism, and planning, etc.

2) Tourism Development – Develop and promote PPWHS as a tourism destination and as part of a regional tourism initiative

Anchor staff: Doug Bourgeois, Office of Lt. Governor

Recommendations for additional task force members:

Russ Greer, retired neurologist (Monroe)

Betty Reed, Byerley House

Jill Kidder, Co-Exe Director, La Travel Promotion Association

Darienne Mobley, Co-Exe Director, La Travel Promotion Association

Alana Cooper, Monroe/West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau

Darlene Mobley, La Travel Promotion Authority

Tina Johnson, Madison Parish Tourism Commission

Karl Black, Director, Mound Welcome Center

American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) Representative

Possible Goals:

- 1) Stimulate tourism development in the region (expand services; cross-promotion).
- 2) Identify barriers to expanded tourism in region and identify strategies to overcome these.
- 3) Identify new ways to market PPWHS and other destinations in the region.
- 4) Review Jonathan Tourtellot's report for suggestions about sustainable tourism related to PPWHS.
- 5) Advise Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism about preservation and safety measures regarding PPWHS and its setting.
- 6) Look for grants to expand interpretation, tourism, planning, etc.

3) Archaeology and Education – Foster archaeological research, educational opportunities, and conservation of cultural resources

Anchor staff: Chip McGimsey, State Archaeologist, Louisiana Division of Archaeology

Recommendations for additional task force members:

Diana Greenlee, Poverty Point Station Archaeologist

Nancy Hawkins, Division of Archaeology

Evan Peacock, Archaeologist, Mississippi State University

Jon Gibson, Archaeologist, University of Louisiana at Lafayette Emeritus

TR Kidder, Professor, Washington University St. Louis

Tony Ortmann, Geoarchaeologist, Murray State University (Kentucky)

Pete Gregory, Professor, Northwestern State University

Jim Fogelman, Avocational Archaeologist, Louisiana Archaeological Society Officer

Robert Connolly, Director CH Nash Museum at Chucalissa (Memphis, TN)

George Riser, Advocates for Poverty Point

Grayhawk Perkins, Native American Cultural Representative, New Orleans

Kevin Billiot, Exe Director Institute for Indian Development and Inter-Tribal Council

Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Coushatta Tribe

Richard Hartley, Lt. Governor's Office, Special Projects Director

Possible Goals:

- 1) Develop strategies to foster, expand, and expedite scientific archaeological investigations of Poverty Point-age sites in the Poverty Point Compatible Use Zone.
- 2) Develop strategies to expand educational opportunities for students, including undergraduate and graduate students, to study the PPWHS and other sites associated with the Poverty Point culture.
- 3) Consider ways to protect other archaeological sites that are related to PPWHS that are outside the boundaries of the state property.
- 4) Look for grants to expand interpretation, tourism, planning, etc.

4) Community Partnerships – Facilitate community-based planning to chart a course toward successful economic development opportunities

Anchor staff: Phil Boggan, Office of Cultural Development

Recommendations:

Steve Windham, Lt. Governor's Office, Exe Director Encore Louisiana

Eddie Russell, West Carroll Parish Police Juror

Tana Trichel, CEO, Northeast Louisiana Economic Alliance

John Barbry, Director of Development and Programming Tunica-Biloxi

Shirley Gibson, Epps Mayor

Adam Holland, Oak Grove Mayor

Jessie Washington, Dehli Mayor

Eddie Beckwith, Jr., Tallulah Mayor

West Carroll Chamber of Commerce Representative

Possible Goals:

- 1) Identify stakeholders related to Poverty Point, such as governmental agencies, support organizations, descendent groups, and neighbor.
- 2) Solicit input from and strengthen relationships with governmental agencies, community partners, American Indian tribes, other descendant groups, stakeholders, and members of the public about PPWHS.
- 3) Develop strategies and training to facilitate and promote economic development.
- 4) Engage communities to leverage opportunities relating to World Heritage; foster community revitalization; encourage small business development; promote economic development.
- 5) Look for grants to expand interpretation, tourism, planning, etc.

Discussion Topics

1) Are all the right pieces in place to move PPWHS forward?

The pieces that seem to be missing are funding and strong political will from all levels of state government (not just the Lt Gov's Office). Maybe these will come as the process gains momentum.

Is there still a vacant position on the Commission?

2.) Recommendations/considerations/ideas for the Commission to consider in moving forward?

How frequently will the Commission meet?

3.) Recommendations/considerations/ideas for the task forces in moving forward?

For the tourism and economic development task forces, we need to remember that whatever we do, we have to protect the authenticity and integrity of the site. If we lose those properties, then there's no point.

Should land acquisition be the responsibility of a task force?

- Integration of LTPA services to promote PPWHS
- Promote PPWHS as a regional tourism site for Louisiana and through the larger cities in its orbit (i.e., Shreveport/Bossier; Monroe; Jackson, MS; Dallas, Little Rock, Memphis)
- Promote PPWHS excursion packages from Monroe, LA, (1 hour drive); Shreveport (2.5 hrs); Jackson, MS (1 hr, 45 mins.)
- Create PowerPoint lesson modules for various age groups for distribution in public and private schools
- Create an annual Native American event (i.e. pow wow, cultural appreciation day, etc.) to draw tourism and community involvement at PPWHS
- Coordinate annual archaeological field schools for professional and amateur archaeologists
- Produce 30 & 60 second television spots promoting PPWHS to use as PSAs in regional markets
- Partner with regional destination tourism and commercial websites and social media

4.) Who (or which organizations) should we engage on the task forces (see following page for task forces)?

- LTPA
- Intertribal Council of Louisiana – Kevin Billiot, Executive Director
- United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc. – Cultural & Heritage Committee: Robert Thrower, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, THPO, 5811 Jack Springs Rd., Atmore, AL 36502, Ph: (251) 368-9136 x 2281, Fx: (251) 368-1023, rthrower@pci-nsn.gov
- Louisiana Creole Heritage Center - 318-357-6685; NSU Box 5675, Natchitoches, Louisiana 71459; creole@alpha.nsula.edu
- Historic New Orleans Collection – Priscilla Lawrence, Director
- Mississippi Archaeological Association - <http://www.msarchaeology.org/>
- The Archaeological Conservancy - <http://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/about-us/>
- Arkansas Archaeology Society - <http://www.arkarch.org/>
- Texas Archaeology Society - <http://www.txarch.org/>

5.) Other ideas/notes.